

**Health Risk Behaviors Among High School-Aged Youth**  
**National and Montana Comparisons of Selected Elements**  
*(with Non-random Data\*\* for Montana Respondents who Self-Identified as American Indian)*

*Sources: 2003 U.S. and 2005 Montana Youth Risk Behavior Surveys (OPI)*

<b>Youth Risk Behavior Survey Data</b> (percent of students who)	<b>Montana 2005 (Indian-R<sup>1</sup>)**</b>	<b>Montana 2005 (Indian-U<sup>2</sup>)**</b>	<b>Montana 2005</b>	<b>U.S. 2003</b>
Carried a weapon in the past 30 days	20.0	29.1	21.4	17.1
Carried a gun in the past 30 days	10.6	12.1	9.0	6.1
Carried a weapon on school property in the past 30 days	10.5	16.4	10.2	6.1
Did not go to school in the past 30 days because they felt unsafe	7.7	5.8	4.2	5.4
Were in a physical fight in the past 12 months	43.9	40.6	30.5	33.0
Actually attempted suicide in the past 12 months	16.6	16.3	10.3	8.5
Ever smoked a cigarette (lifetime use)	82.9	68.6	55.4	58.4
Are "current" smokers (smoked on 1 or more of the previous 30 days)	52.2	35.3	20.1	21.9
Ever smoked daily (at least 1 cigarette every day for 30 days)	30.4	27.7	15.2	15.8
Are "frequent" smokers (smoked on 20 or more of the previous 30 days)	17.9	15.2	8.8	9.7
Are "current" smokeless tobacco users (used chew or smokeless tobacco on 1 or more of the previous 30 days)	28.8	19.3	14.8	6.7
Ever had consumed alcohol (lifetime alcohol use)	83.1	78.8	77.8	74.9
Are "current" alcohol users (drank alcohol on 1 or more of the previous 30 days)	56.3	49.1	48.6	44.9
"Binge" drink (episodic heavy drinking, consuming 5 or more drinks at one occasion)	44.9	36.9	34.4	28.3
Ever used marijuana (lifetime marijuana use)	74.7	45.6	41.7	40.2

<b>Youth Risk Behavior Survey Data</b> (percent of students who)		<b>Montana 2005 (Indian-R<sup>1</sup>)**</b>	<b>Montana 2005 (Indian-U<sup>2</sup>)**</b>	<b>Montana 2005</b>	<b>U.S. 2003</b>
Are "current" marijuana users (used marijuana 1 or more times in the previous 30 days)		51.0	23.1	22.3	22.4
Ever used inhalants (lifetime inhalant use)		23.5	18.7	15.4	12.1
Ever used methamphetamines (lifetime use)		15.2	13.3	8.3	7.6
Ever had sexual intercourse		69.4	51.1	43.6	46.7
Are currently sexually active (had sexual intercourse in the past 3 months)		47.9	32.9	31.2	34.3
Of those who ever had sex, the percent who used alcohol or drugs before last sexual intercourse		37.9	34.5	29.4	25.4
Are attempting to lose weight		52.3	46.6	42.6	43.8
Participated in vigorous physical activity (3+ days in past 7)		62.2	64.7	65.0	62.6
Watch 3 or more hours of TV on a school night		36.7	29.5	26.3	38.2
Used alcohol before age 13		31.2	40.0	27.8	27.8
Smoked a cigarette before age 13		41.5	31.3	17.6	18.3
Tried marijuana before age 13		37.9	17.9	11.2	9.9
Had sexual intercourse before age 13		12.6	12.7	5.1	7.4

yrbs/comparison Indian

<sup>1</sup> The data for American Indian students on reservations represents 682 high school students.

<sup>2</sup> The data for American Indian students in urban schools represents 384 high school students.

\*\* These data represent the respondents only; it would not be valid to generalize these findings to all American Indian students in Montana.